



High Plains Regional Education Cooperative

R. Stephen Aguirre, Executive Director

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August 12, 2015

Chairman Wheeler
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC, 20554

In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors,
CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

On behalf of High Plains Regional Education Cooperative #3, I write to express our strong support for the nomination of AASA Executive Director Daniel A. Domenech to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors. We were pleased to support Dr. Domenech in his previous nominations in 2012 and 2013, and we look forward to his continued leadership with USAC. We welcome the opportunity to submit this letter of support.

As the professional organization for school system leaders, including superintendents and local education leaders in Northeast New Mexico we stand firm in our support for Dr. Domenech to the USAC board. High Plains Regional Education Cooperative has long supported the important mission of the E-Rate program, and has worked with other education organizations and the commission to improve the E-Rate program since its inception. The E-Rate program has been very valuable to rural schools not only in our area, but, throughout New Mexico. The E-Rate program has provided the necessary bandwidth needed for our students throughout New Mexico in closing the achievement gap.

Dr. Domenech's leadership at AASA—and AASA's proven track record as an excellent advocate for the E-Rate program—make us confident that he will continue to be a strong addition to the USAC Board.

With more than 40 years of experience in public education, Dr. Domenech has extensive education and leadership experience, including first-hand experience of the critical role of telecommunications and connectivity in schools. Further, his direct link to public school systems provides a sense of continuity when it comes to representing school system-level thoughts and opinions.

In today's increasingly global and competitive world, a top notch education and the building of lifelong learning skills require access to education technology, and Dr. Domenech is acutely aware of the crucial role the E-Rate program plays in helping schools and libraries afford telecommunications connectivity.

Beyond his years in the classroom, which include extensive teaching and leadership experience, Dr. Domenech has served on the U.S. Department of Education's National Assessment Governing Board, on the advisory board for the Department of Defense schools, on the Board of Overseers for the Baldrige Award and the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. He is currently chair for Communities in Schools of Virginia and the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, and is on the board for the Learning First Alliance, the Center for Naval Analyses, ACT and USAC.

We believe that Dr. Domenech's broad understanding of education, education leadership and education technology, coupled with a strong work ethic and deep commitment to expanding educational opportunities to the nation's students, will add to the work of USAC as it moves forward. His nomination to the USAC board provides continuity and leadership, allowing him to continue in a role he has held for three years, representing the voice of school administrator/superintendent.

For these reasons, we respectfully request your approval of Dr. Domenech's nomination to the USAC Board of directors, representing schools and libraries that are eligible to receive discounts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Stephen Aguirre". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

R. Stephen Aguirre
Executive Director
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